



# THIEL SOFTBALL 2026 GAME NOTES

Thiel Sports Information | Beeghly Gymnasium | 75 College Ave. | Greenville, PA 16125  
Softball Contact: Abby Katrinak | akatrinak@thiel.edu | c: (440) 915-9424

## GAME LINKS



Watch



Live Stats

## SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Time / Result
<b>Fastpitch Dreams Spring Classic</b>		
3/8	Penn State Du Bois	W 11-3 (5 inn.)
3/8	Keystone	W 11-8 (5 inn.)
3/9	Hilbert	W 3-2
3/9	King's	L 3-1
3/11	Gwynedd Mercy	W 2-1
3/11	Cairn	W 15-7 (6 inn.)
3/12	Penn	L 5-0
3/12	Bridgewater State	L 5-3
3/13	Albion	L 5-4
3/13	Immaculata	L 11-3 (5 inn.)
3/20	at Kent State Tuscarawas	L 10-6
3/20	at Kent State Tuscarawas	W 12-4
3/23	at John Carroll	Postponed
3/23	at John Carroll	Postponed
3/25	at Franciscan *	L 5-3
3/25	at Franciscan *	W 8-4
3/26	GROVE CITY * ^	L 7-2
3/28	GENEVA *	L 1-9 (6 Inn.)
3/28	GENEVA *	L 4-9
3/31	at Bethany *	L 6-10
3/31	at Bethany *	L 1-10
4/1	PENN STATE BEHREND	Postponed
4/1	PENN STATE BEHREND	Postponed
<b>4/8</b>	<b>SAINT VINCENT *</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>4/8</b>	<b>SAINT VINCENT *</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>
4/9	GROVE CITY * ^	Suspended from 3/26
4/11	HIRAM * !	1 p.m.
4/11	HIRAM * !	3 p.m.
4/3	at Allegheny *	3 p.m.
4/3	at Allegheny *	5 p.m.
4/15	at Waynesburg *	3:30 p.m.
4/15	at Waynesburg *	5:30 p.m.
4/18	W&J * \$	1 p.m.
4/18	W&J * \$	3 p.m.
4/20	at Pitt Greensburg	3 p.m.
4/20	at Pitt Greensburg	5 p.m.
4/23	WESTMINSTER *	3 p.m.
4/23	WESTMINSTER *	5 p.m.
4/26	at Chatham *	1 p.m.
4/26	at Chatham *	3 p.m.

\* PAC Game | ALL CAPS - Home Game | ^ MyBella Game  
! Strikeout Cancer Game | \$ Senior Day



Thiel Athletics @ThielAthletics  
Softball @Thiel\_SB



Thiel Athletics @thielathletics  
Softball @thiel\_soft



Thiel Athletics /ThielAthletics



Thiel Athletics @ThielAthletics

## Thiel (7-12, 1-6 PAC) vs. Saint Vincent (9-13, 3-7 PAC)

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 | 3 p.m.

Softball Field at Tomcat Park | Greenville, Pa.

### THIEL TOMCATS



<b>Record (PAC)</b>	7-12 (1-6)
<b>Last Game</b>	3rd inn. Suspended vs. GCC (3/26)
<b>Head Coach</b>	Michael Kernan
<b>Thiel Record</b>	7-12 (First Season)
<b>Overall Record</b>	Same

### SAINT VINCENT BEARCATS



<b>Record (PAC)</b>	9-13 (3-7)
<b>Last Game</b>	L 2-4 vs W&J (4/2)
<b>Head Coach</b>	Nicole (Hinerman) Karr
<b>Grove City Record</b>	368-287-1 (20th Season)
<b>Overall Record</b>	Same

### SERIES HISTORY

<b>First Meeting</b>	2007	<b>Neutral</b>	0-1
<b>All-Time Series</b>	STV leads 12-29	<b>First Meeting</b>	STV W 4-3 11 inn. (4/17/07)
<b>Home</b>	STV leads 5-11	<b>Last Meeting</b>	Thiel W 9-8 (4/9/25)
<b>Away</b>	STV leads 6-18	<b>Current Streak</b>	Thiel W3

### GAME NOTES

**GETTIN' BACK ON TRACK** -- Thiel has dropped their past four Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) match-ups ... They look to get back in the win column as their last PAC win was at Franciscan.

**SERIES SUMMARY** -- Thiel is 12-29 all time versus Saint Vincent ... The Tomcats are 5-11 at home and 6-18 on the road in the series.

### LAST 15 IN SERIES RESULTS

DATE	H/A	W/L	SCORE
5/3/2025	N	L	6 - 10
5/1/2025	N	W	3 - 2
3/29/2025	A	W	8 - 2
3/29/2025	A	L	0 - 4
4/16/2024	H	L	3 - 7
4/16/2024	H	L	4 - 6
4/19/2023	A	W	4 - 2
4/19/2023	A	L	1 - 5
4/27/2022	A	L	3 - 11
4/27/2022	A	W	6 - 2
4/30/2021	H	(5 inn.)L	0 - 8
4/30/2021	H	(5 inn.)	L 0 - 8
3/27/2021	A	L	3 - 9
3/27/2021	A	(5 inn.)L	0 - 11
4/24/2019	H	W	2 - 0

**HITTING MACHINE** -- Sophomore **Kayley Risser** leads the team with a batting avg. of .418, slugging % of .709, and on base % of .500 ... Risser has hit one home run, four triples, five doubles, and has brought in 20 RBIs ... She has a good eye in the box as she has nine walks.

**TRIPLE THREAT** -- Senior **Kylie Heid** follows Risser with a .369 batting avg. and slugging % of .692 ... Heid has two home runs, nine doubles, three triples and 11 RBIs in the 2026 season.

**FEDDER THE FIREARM** -- On the mound, junior **Alaina Fedder** is 2-6 with and ERA of 4.81 and 20 strikeouts on the season ... In the batters box, Fedder has hit six doubles and has a BA of .314.

**MACK ATTACK** -- Senior **Mackenzie Herman** is a key aspect to both sides of the field ... She has 22 hits off 63 at bats (.349) and in the circle has a record of 3-1 and has an ERA of 5.59 with 15 strikeouts ... Herman recorded her third home run of the year in their first game against Bethany.

**FRESH IMPACT** -- Freshman **Lily Merolillo** has become important to the Thiel starting line up ... Merolillo has a BA of .342, including one triple and a double ... On the mound, Lily has pitched 26.1 innings and has had six strikeouts.

**ON-BASE MACHINE** -- Sophomore **Sheila Despenes** is tied for first in walks with nine and has an OB% of .391.

**G-FORCE** -- Sophomore **Ava Gilmore** has risen in the lineup and has a batting average of .318 ... She recorded the first home run of her career at Franciscan and has also tallied one double, one triple, and eight RBIs.

**LOOKING AHEAD** -- Thiel will head to Grove City on April, 9 to finish their suspended game against the Wolverines.

## AROUND THE PAC

### PAC STANDINGS

TEAM	PAC	OVR	H	A	N
Westminster	9-1	14-6	4-0	5-1	5-5
Geneva	6-2	17-5	6-2	2-0	9-3
Grove City	5-2	13-4	3-1	4-1	6-2
Bethany	7-3	17-6	3-3	5-2	9-1
Hiram	4-2	5-11	2-0	2-2	1-9
Waynesburg	6-4	18-8	9-3	3-3	6-2
W&J	4-6	10-12	5-1	1-5	4-6
Chatham	3-5	7-17	4-4	2-4	1-9
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	<b>3-7</b>	<b>9-13</b>	<b>5-3</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>2-6</b>
Allegheny	2-6	5-13	1-3	1-3	3-7
<b>Thiel</b>	<b>1-6</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>5-5</b>
Franciscan	1-7	3-15	2-4	0-4	1-7

### PAC PRESEASON POLL

No.	TEAM	PTS (1ST PLACE)	2025
1.	Westminster	117 (9)	28-13 (14-6)
2.	Geneva	108 (2)	31-15 (13-7)
3.	Grove City	102	26-13 (15-5)
4.	Allegheny	93 (1)	23-16 (13-7)
5.	Waynesburg	70	23-16 (9-11)
6.	Bethany	69	26-13-1 (12-8)
7.	Hiram	58	21-17 (9-5)
8.	W&J	51	13-18 (8-12)
9.	Saint Vincent	43	21-17 (9-11)
<b>10.</b>	<b>Thiel</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18-18 (10-10)</b>
11.	Chatham	28	14-26 (6-14)
12.	Franciscan	12	4-26 (1-19)

### THIEL VS. CURRENT PAC TEAMS

(As of 1991)

OPP	REC	GP	H	A
Allegheny	3-15	18	2-8	1-7
Bethany	13-67	80	8-25	4-41
Chatham	31-9	40	19-2	12-7
Franciscan	17-4	21	7-1	5-3
Geneva	21-30	51	10-12	10-16
Grove City	33-42	75	18-18	13-22
Hiram	14-10	24	8-4	6-6
Saint Vincent	12-29	41	5-11	6-18
W&J	26-50	76	13-27	11-22
Waynesburg	34-39	73	16-17	17-20
Westminster	14-59-1	64	6-24-1	6-30
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>218-354</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>112-148</b>	<b>91-192</b>

## ROSTER

Num	Player	Yr.	Pos.	B/T	Ht.	Hometown / H.S.
1	Lily Merolillo	Fr.	P/UTIL	R/R	5-3	Mineral Ridge, Ohio / Mineral Ridge
2	Mahalia Campbell	So.	UTIL	R/R	5-2	Titusville, Pa. / Titusville Senior
6	Ava Gilmore	So.	OF/2B	R/R	5-4	West Middlesex, Pa. / West Middlesex Area
7	Alaina Fedder	Jr.	P/2B	R/R	5-2	Clearfield, Pa. / Clearfield Area
8	Julia Schimizzi	Fr.	OF/1B	L/L	5-4	Willowick, Ohio / Willoughby South
9	Makenna Oswalt	Sr.	OF/1B	R/R	5-9	Johnstown, Pa. / Westmont Hilltop
11	Kalina Moreno	Fr.	UTIL	R/R	5-1	San Antonio, Texas / Clark
12	Kayley Risser	So.	OF	R/R	5-8	Reynoldsville, Pa. / Dubois Central Catholic
13	Jensen Stehlik	Jr.	OF	L/L	5-5	Sagamore Hills, Ohio / Nordonia
14	Sheila Despenes	So.	UTIL	R/R	5-6	Townville, Pa. / Maplewood
15	Alayzha McCray	Jr.	3B	R/R	5-2	Erie, Pa. / Iroquois
17	Marsha Foreman	Jr.	C	R/R	5-4	Bonita Springs, Fla. / Bonita Springs
18	Kylie Heid	Sr.	SS	L/R	5-4	Monaca, Pa. / Central Valley
19	Mekiyah Stevens	Fr.	1B/3B	R/R	5-8	Edgewood, Md. / Edgewood
20	Rylie Fordyce	So.	C	R/R	5-8	Greensburg, Pa. / Hempfield Area
23	Madison Hufford	Fr.	C/3B	R/R	5-2	Cortland, Ohio / Mathews
24	Mackenzie Herman	Gr.	P/UTIL	R/R	5-9	Greenville, Pa. / Reynolds
29	Audrey Aguilar	Jr.	1B	R/R	5-9	South El Monte, Cali. / Alta Loma

### Coaching Staff

Head Coach: Michael Kernan (First Season)

Assistant Coaches: Destiny Goodnight | Kara Buente | Barb Balestrino

### Pronunciation Guide

- 1: Lily Merolillo - Lilly MAIR-oh-lil-oh
- 2: Mahalia Campbell - MUH-hail-ee-uu Campbell
- 8: Julia Schimizzi - Julia SCUH-mitz
- 11: Kalina Moreno - KUH-lean-uh More-ee-no
- 13: Jensen Stehlik - Jensen STAY-lick
- 14: Sheila Despenes - SHE-luh Despenes
- 15: Alayzha McCray - UH-layz-uh McCray
- 19: Mekiyah Stevens - MUH-ki-uh Stevens
- 20: Rylie Fordyce - Rylie FOR-dice
- 29: Audrey Aguilar - Audrey AG-wi-lar

### Coaching Staff

- Michael Kernan - Michael Ker-NAN (rhymes with man)
- Kara Buente - Car-uh Bwen-tay

### General

Thiel Tomcats: Teal (like the color) Tomcats

**MEDIA ROSTER**



**#1 LILY MEROLILLO**  
Fr. | P/UTIL | R/R | 5-3



**#2 MAHALIA CAMPBELL**  
So. | UTIL | R/R | 5-2



**#6 AVA GILMORE**  
So. | OF/2B | R/R | 5-4



**#7 ALAINA FEDDER**  
Jr. | P/2B | R/R | 5-2



**#8 JULIA SCHIMIZZI**  
Fr. | OF/1B | L/L | 5-4



**#9 MAKENNA OSWALT**  
Sr. | OF/1B | R/R | 5-9



**#11 KALINA MORENO**  
Fr. | UTIL | R/R | 5-1



**#12 KAYLEY RISSER**  
So. | OF | R/R | 5-8



**#13 JENSEN STEHLIK**  
Jr. | OF | L/L | 5-5



**#14 SHEILA DESPENES**  
So. | UTIL | R/R | 5-6



**#15 ALAYZHA MCCRAY**  
Jr. | 3B | R/R | 5-2



**#16 MADISON HUFFORD**  
Fr. | C/3B | R/R | 5-2



**#17 MARSHA FOREMAN**  
Jr. | C | R/R | 5-4



**#18 KYLIE HEID**  
Sr. | SS | L/R | 5-4



**#19 MEKIYAH STEVENS**  
Fr. | 1B/3B | R/R | 5-8



**#20 RYLIE FORDYCE**  
So. | C | R/R | 5-8



**#24 MACKENZIE HERMAN**  
Gr. | P/UTIL | R/R | 5-9



**#29 AUDREY AGUILAR**  
Jr. | 1B | R/R | 5-9



**HC MICHAEL KERNAN**  
First Season



**AC DESTINY GOODNIGHT**  
First Season



**AC KARA BUENTE**  
First Season



**AC BARB BALESTRINO**  
First Season

## PLAYER STATISTICS

### 2026 Thiel College Softball Overall Statistics (as of Mar 31, 2026)

Overall Record: 7-12 Conf: 1-6 Home: 0-3 Away: 2-4 Neutral: 5-5

#### All games Sorted by Batting Avg

#	Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
12	Risser, Kayley	.418	18-17	55	15	23	5	4	1	20	39	.709	9	0	4	0	.500	0	1	3-4	42	3	2	.957
18	Heid, Kylie	.369	19-19	65	19	24	9	3	2	11	45	.692	9	0	8	0	.440	1	0	6-7	36	45	9	.900
24	Herman, Mackenzie	.349	19-19	63	12	22	3	1	3	11	36	.571	4	0	10	0	.388	0	0	1-1	17	18	4	.897
1	Merolillo, Lily	.342	19-16	38	7	13	1	1	0	3	16	.421	4	1	7	0	.419	0	3	2-2	22	29	3	.944
6	Gilmore, Ava	.318	19-17	44	10	14	1	1	1	8	20	.455	4	2	5	0	.392	1	1	7-7	21	1	3	.880
7	Fedder, Alaina	.314	19-19	51	3	16	6	0	0	7	22	.431	4	0	2	0	.364	0	2	0-0	18	36	7	.885
23	Hufford, Madison	.291	18-17	55	4	16	4	0	0	7	20	.364	1	2	5	0	.322	1	0	0-0	38	8	4	.920
9	Oswalt, Makenna	.214	16-14	28	3	6	1	0	0	2	7	.250	1	1	4	0	.267	0	3	0-0	88	0	0	1.000
14	Despenes, Sheila	.206	17-16	34	12	7	1	0	0	2	8	.235	9	2	8	0	.391	1	0	0-0	10	0	2	.833
15	McCray, Alayzha	.500	1-0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	.500	0	0	0	0	.500	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
8	Schimizzi, Julia	.273	12-6	11	3	3	0	0	0	1	3	.273	3	0	5	0	.429	0	0	0-0	11	0	2	.846
20	Fordyce, Rylie	.238	10-7	21	1	5	1	0	0	2	6	.286	3	0	2	0	.333	0	0	1-2	7	0	1	.875
29	Aguilair, Audrey	.235	9-7	17	1	4	0	0	0	4	4	.235	2	1	1	1	.333	1	0	0-0	30	0	2	.938
19	Stevens, Mekiyah	.111	5-2	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	.111	0	0	2	0	.111	0	0	1-1	0	0	0	.000
11	Moreno, Kalina	.000	7-3	9	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	2	0	1	0	.182	0	0	1-1	1	3	0	1.000
17	Foreman, Marsha	.000	4-3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	2	0	0	0	.250	0	0	1-1	8	0	0	1.000
2	Campbell, Mahalia	.000	8-2	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	1	0	0	1.000
<b>Totals</b>		<b>.303</b>	<b>19-19</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>.445</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.379</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23-26</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>.927</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>.351</b>	<b>19-19</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>.461</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.394</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22-27</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>.942</b>

LOB: Team (137), Opp (132) DPs Turned: Team (7), Opp (10) IBB: Team (0), Opp (0) Picked Off: Merolillo (1)

#### All games Sorted by Earned Run Avg

#	Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	B/AVG	WP	HP	BK	SFA	SHA
7	Fedder, Alaina	4.81	2-6	11	9	3	0-0	0	48.0	80	46	33	8	20	10	5	3	.349	3	0	0	2	1
1	Merolillo, Lily	5.05	2-4	12	4	0	0-0	0	26.1	42	27	19	10	6	7	2	1	.333	2	0	0	1	0
6	Gilmore, Ava	5.09	0-1	4	1	0	0-0	0	11.0	24	13	8	2	3	2	2	0	.421	0	1	0	0	0
24	Herman, Mackenzie	5.59	3-1	8	5	2	0-0	1	31.1	49	32	25	19	15	9	0	1	.343	13	2	0	2	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>5.10</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>116.2</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>.351</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>4.60</b>	<b>12-7</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120.1</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>.303</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>

PB: Team (6), Totals (6), Fordyce (3), Hufford (3), Opp (3) Pickoffs: Team (0), Totals , Opp (1) SBA/ATT: Totals (44-54), Hufford (17-22), Merolillo (9-10), Fedder (6-8), Herman (6-6), Fordyce (4-4), Foreman (1-1), Gilmore (1-3)

## TEAM STATISTICS

GAMES	RUNS	BATTING AVERAGE	ON BASE PERCENTAGE	SLUGGING PERCENTAGE	HOME RUNS
19	96	.303	.379	.445	7

SCHEDULE SUMMARY		
Overall (Pct.)	7-12 (.368)	
Conference (Pct.)	1-6 (.143)	
Streak	Lost 5	
Home	0-3	
Away	2-4	
Neutral	5-5	
RECENT GAMES		
Mar 25	at Franciscan	W, 8-4
Mar 26	Grove City	L, 7-2
Mar 30	Geneva	L, 9-1
Mar 30	Geneva	L, 9-4
Mar 31	at Bethany (W.V.)	L, 10-6
Mar 31	at Bethany (W.V.)	L, 10-1

STATISTICS CATEGORY	OVERALL	CONF
Games	19	7
At Bats	512	191
Runs	96	25
Hits	155	54
Doubles	32	11
Triples	10	2
Home Runs	7	5
Runs Batted In	79	20
Extra Base Hits	49	18
Total Bases	228	84
Walks	57	18
Hit by pitch	9	2
Strikeouts	64	17
Sacrifice Flies	5	0
Sacrifice Hits	10	1
Hit into double play	10	6
Stolen Bases	23	5
Caught Stealing	3	1
Batting Average	.303	.283
On Base Percentage	.379	.351
Slugging Percentage	.445	.440
Earned Run Average	5.10	7.65
WHIP	2.01	2.42
Shutouts	0	0
At Bats Against	555	210
Batting Average Against	.351	.395
Home Games Played	3.0	3.0
Home Attendance	244	244
Home Attendance average	82	82

## STARTING LINEUPS BY POSITION

Date	OPP	RES	SP	C	1B	2B	3B	SS	LF	CF	RF	DP
3/8	Penn State DuBois	W 11-3 (5 Inn.)	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/8	Keystone	W 11-8 (5 Inn.)	Herman	Fordyce	Schimizzi	Fedder	Hufford	Heid	Moreno	Risser	Despenes	Aguilar
3/9	Hilbert	W 3-2	Herman	Foreman	Oswalt	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Hufford
3/9	King's	L 3-1	Fedder	Foreman	Aguilar	Moreno	Herman	Heid	Fordyce	Schimizzi	Campbell	Stevens
3/11	Gwynedd Mercy	W 2-1	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/11	Cairn	W 15-7 (6 Inn.)	Herman	Fordyce	Aguilar	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/12	Penn	L 5-0	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Aguilar
3/12	Bridgewater State	L 5-3	Gilmore	Hufford	Oswalt	Moreno	Herman	Heid	Schimizzi	Risser	Fordyce	Fedder
3/13	Albion	L 5-4	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Campbell	Despenes
3/13	Immaculata	L 11-3 (5 Inn.)	Merolillo	Hufford	Aguilar	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Schimizzi	Gilmore	Fordyce	Stevens
3/19	Kent St. Tuscarawas	L 10-6	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/19	Kent St. Tuscarawas	W 12-4	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/23	John Carroll	Postponed										
3/23	John Carroll	Postponed										
3/25	Franciscan	L 5-3	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/25	Franciscan	W 8-4	Herman	Fordyce	Aguilar	Fedder	Merolillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Hufford
3/26	Grove City	L 7-2	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	Horeman
3/26	Grove City	Suspended	Herman	Foreman	Oswalt	Fedder	Merlillo	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Schimizzi	Hufford
3/28	Geneva	L 9-1	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merolillo	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/28	Geneva	L 9-4	Herman	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Merollio	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
3/31	Bethany	L 10-6	Fedder	Hufford	Oswalt	Merollio	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Schimizzi	Despenes
3/31	Bethany	L 10-1	Merolillo	Hufford	Oswalt	Fedder	Herman	Heid	Gilmore	Risser	Despenes	-
4/1	Penn State Behrend	Postponed										
4/1	Penn State Behrend	Postponed										
4/8	Saint Vincent											
4/8	Saint Vincent											
4/11	Hiram											
4/11	Hiram											
4/13	Allegheny											
4/13	Allegheny											
4/15	Waynesburg											
4/15	Waynesburg											
4/18	W&J											
4/18	W&J											
4/20	Pitt Greensburg											
4/20	Pitt Greensburg											
4/23	Westminster											
4/23	Westminster											
4/26	Chatham											
4/26	Chatham											

# THE INVINCIBLE FOUNDATION

## HEAD COACH MICHAEL KERNAN



**Michael Kernan** enters his first season at Thiel in 2026 after being hired in Nov. 2025.

Kernan collected his first victory as leader of the Tomcats on opening day with an 11-3 run-rule trouncing of Penn State Du-Bois in five innings.

Kernan joined Thiel with more than two decades of successful coaching experience at both the high school and colle-

giate levels. Most recently, he led Canfield High School to back-to-back Ohio Division II State Championship appearances, winning the crown in 2024 and finishing as runners-up in 2023. During his tenure, Canfield compiled an impressive 72-11-3 record, produced multiple All-State selections and earned consecutive conference titles.

Before his success at Canfield, Kernan served as an assistant coach at fellow Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) school Hiram College. During the 2022 season, he helped guide Hiram to the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Tournament Championship and a runner-up finish at the NCAA DePauw Regional, marking one of the most successful campaigns in program history.

Kernan started his coaching journey at Ursuline High School in Ohio. He compiled 373 wins in his nearly 20 years with the program. Under his leadership, Ursuline won eight district championships, was a state

championship finalist and claimed 17 sectional championships.

In addition to his collegiate and high school coaching accomplishments, Kernan has extensive experience in player instruction and program development. He previously founded and operated Softball U Academy in Youngstown, Ohio, training hundreds of athletes who went on to collegiate careers.

His career accolades include inductions into four different hall of fame's, including the Hiram Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005 and Ohio High School Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

A Hiram alumnus, Kernan earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management with a minor in Computer Science. A decorated multi-sport athlete during his collegiate career, he was a Pizza Hut All-American and three-time All-PAC honoree in football.

